

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 FCC-02 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12

NEA-10 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06

USIA-15 COME-00 BIB-01 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-02 SAL-01

CG-00 DLOS-06 OES-06 OIC-02 /118 W
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R 191730Z AUG 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1959

UNCLAS GENEVA 6652

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, ITU

SUBJECT: ITU: MARITIME ISSUE AT CCITT PLENARY ASSEMBLY

REF: STATE 204366

1. AFTER DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS HAD BEEN CONVEYED TO HIM
ON AUGUST 18, ITU DEPUTY SYG BUTLER ASKED THAT USG KEEP
FOLLOWING POINTS IN MIND:

(A) RE BUTLER'S REMARKS CITED IN PARA 1, REFTEL, DOCUMENT
CITED REFLECTED ONLY HALF HIS STATEMENT; OTHER HALF WAS THAT,
CONVERSELY, IF IN BILATERAL DEALINGS, ONE COUNTRY INSISTED
THAT RADIO REGS PREVAIL OVER CHANGES MADE BY RECOMMENDATIONS,
RADIO REGS WOULD PREVAIL.

(B) ATTENDANCE AT CCITT JWP WAS DEFICIENT ON SEVERAL COUNTS:

(1) ONLY 31 COUNTRIES WERE REPRESENTED; OF FLAG OF
CONVENIENCE SHIPPERS, ONLY LIBERIA WAS PRESENT AND STRONGLY
OBJECTED TO WHAT IT TERMED UNILATERAL ATTEMPT BY CCITT
TO (A) APPROVE PRINCIPLE OF SINGLE ACCOUNTING AUTHORITY,
AND (B) ELIMINATE MOBILE SHIP STATION CHARGES: SEE
CONTRIBUTION 83; AND
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(2) BY AND LARGE, PARTICIPANTS CAME FROM RPOAS AND DID NOT HAVE GOVERNMENT-APPROVED INSTRUCTIONS. SEVERAL ADMINISTRATIONS NOW BELIEVE PARTICIPANTS WENT TOO FAR AND ARE RECONSIDERING OFFICIAL POSITION TO BE TAKEN AT CCITT PLENARY; BUTLER STATES HE KNOWS THIS TO BE THE CASE WITH UK ADMINISTRATION;

(C) ONLY 31 COUNTRIES ATTENDED JWP AND 70-75 EXPECTED AT CCITT PLENARY. HOWEVER, UPWARDS OF 130 EXPECTED AT 1979 WARC. BUTLER CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBILITY THAT PUTTING RECOMMENDATION INTO FORCE APPROVED BY ONLY ONE-QUARTER OR ONE-THIRD OF MEMBERSHIP PRIOR TO WARC COULD PRODUCE ADVERSE REPERCUSSION AT WARC ITSELF. CATTO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TELECOMMUNICATION, MARINE TRANSPORTATION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA06652
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760319-0068
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760839/aaaabhtg.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 204366
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <08 DEC 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITU: MARITIME ISSUE AT CCITT PLENARY ASSEMBLY
TAGS: ETEL, ITU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006